

**THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR JERSEY  
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT LA MARE VINEYARDS  
on FRIDAY 19<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024 at 6.00 pm**

The President, Mr Charles Malet de Carteret, took the chair. Seventy three members of the Trust were present. No resolutions under Rule 6 (5) had been received.

The President warmly welcomed the members present to what was his first AGM. He expressed his thanks to Mrs Donna Le Marrec for organising the evening.

The President acknowledged the sad but understandable absence of Charles Alluto, who had stepped down as CEO in March. He expressed the Trust's deepest sympathy to Charles for the loss of Sue, who was not only known to so many of the Trust over the years but who had also contributed so much to the Trust in her own right, not least with the beautiful renovations of some of the Trust's most iconic buildings, most recently Morel Farm.

The President reflected that Charles had made the Trust the organisation it is today, being a hugely influential figure both within the Trust and as the face of the Trust to the outside world. Huge successes during Charles's tenure included the Coastline Campaign, the saving of the Plémont Headland, and the saving and restoration of both 16 New Street and the Foot Buildings.

The President commented that Charles had left a remarkable legacy on which the Trust would continue to build in the future with great confidence. He thanked Charles on behalf of all those present, noting that our thoughts were with him and that he would be greatly missed.

The President went on to acknowledge the recent passing of Graham Boxall, a great friend of the Trust and long-standing Council member.

The President concluded his opening remarks by welcoming the Trust's new CEO, Alan Le Maistre, who had joined the Trust last year as fundraising officer. He noted that, after a rigorous interview process, his appointment had been unanimously approved by Council. The President said that Alan promised to bring huge enthusiasm to the role and that he very much looked forward to working with him.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023 had been circulated. A resolution for their adoption was proposed by Mr Christopher Harris, seconded by Mrs Georgina Malet de Carteret and carried.

#### **ADOPTION OF ANNUAL REPORT**

The Annual Report of the Council for the calendar year 2023 had been circulated. Mr Philip Le Brocq proposed and Mrs Robin Kelly seconded its adoption, which was carried.

#### **PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS**

The President noted that his comments on the year were laid out in the Annual Report, but that he wished to repeat his heartfelt thanks to all the staff and volunteers who make everything happen. He continued by reflecting that, as far as the big picture was concerned, the Trust continued to stay true to delivering its original purposes set out in its 1936 Rules, namely securing the permanent

preservation for the benefit of the Island of lands and buildings of beauty or historic benefit.

The President then asked the CEO to deliver a presentation of the Trust's activities during 2023.

#### **CEO'S PRESENTATION**

The CEO began by expressing his sincere thanks to Council for putting their trust in him, and to the whole team at the Trust for their amazing support and encouragement over his first few weeks. He acknowledged the sad circumstances which had brought him to the AGM and expressed his thanks to Charles for the welcome he had received from him. He said he believed the Trust to be a family - one which both Charles and Sue would always be part of.

The CEO then presented an overview of the 2023 Impact Review which Charles had written before his departure and which was contained within the published Annual Report.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The President drew the attention of those present to the Financial Report, which was set out with the Annual Report, copies of which had been circulated to the meeting. He continued by expressing his thanks to the Honorary Treasurer Mrs Michaela Michel and Accounts Officer Mrs Angela Sheehan for their hard work during the year, particularly in liaising with the auditors in the preparation of the 2023 Financial Report on such a timely basis.

The President drew attention to the relatively healthy financial position of the Trust, following the gains realised on the disposal of La Ronce in 2022 and Les Freres Chapels in 2023. He noted that this would help the Trust further reduce its property repair backlog, which was inevitable given the extent and nature of its historic property portfolio.

The President also pointed out that the funding of the majority of the Trust's charitable activities came from bequests and donations, sponsorships and subscriptions together with the rental and investment income derived from its portfolios. The appointment of a new fundraising officer would be a priority to ensure that the Trust had sufficient resources to manage future challenges and opportunities.

#### **ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS**

The audited accounts for 2023 had been circulated and the President thanked RSM Channel Islands (Audit) Ltd in their capacity as auditors to the Trust. There being no questions from the members, Mr Stewart Newton proposed and Mrs Robin Kelly seconded the adoption of the accounts.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

The President advised the meeting that the Trust's auditors were prepared to continue in office. The President thanked them for their excellent work and support. Mr Christopher Harris proposed and Mr Stewart Newton seconded that RSM be re-appointed as the Trust's auditors and this resolution was carried.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The President informed the meeting that two members of Council had given notice that they were retiring – Mr Stewart Newton and Mr Malcolm Le Boutillier. He also advised that Mrs Michaela Michel was stepping down as the Trust’s Honorary Treasurer. The President thanked them all for their valuable contribution to the work of the Trust and presented them with a token of appreciation on behalf of the Trust.

Under Rule 6 (14) the Council remained of a sufficient number of members to be quorate. As such no nominations for further Council members has been sought, and under Rule 6 (15) none had been received.

**PLANS FOR 2024**

The CEO began with an introduction to himself and his background, then presented his hopes for his time as CEO of the Trust, the key points being:

- ensuring that public service, for the benefit of all islanders, is a key element of the Trust’s work.
- inspiring, encouraging and mobilising the population of the Island to help us deliver our aims;
- to do this by showing not telling, engaging with Islanders and working collaboratively;
- diversifying the risk which arises from the Trust’s portfolio of residential properties, at the same time maximising the public benefit derived from our sites;
- actively seek out collaboration with other charities to find new and more socially orientated uses for our sites;
- consider potential for commercial utility of our buildings eg a facility to mill timber, charity book shop, architectural salvage;
- a renewed focus on lands, reflecting the Trust’s position as one of the largest private landowners and our associated responsibility for local conservation – to include investment in our lands team, the deliverance of strategic conservation projects and improving access;
- embracing opportunities such as Biodiversity Net Gain and Corporate Social Responsibility; and
- shaping and supporting the farming industry by working with farmers to promote diversification and sustainable farming and to find new ways to use our land, such as rewilding.

The CEO concluded that the Trust had already sent a bold statement to the public by his appointment, namely that it was forward looking, ambitious and investing for the future. He hoped that during his time as CEO he could act as a bridge between the financial and rural communities, between the old and the young, and between traditional and modern values.

The CEO then provided those present with an update on two specific projects for 2024, the first being the Seabird Reserve. He acknowledged that the proposal for the creation of a predator proof fence was challenging for the Trust given that this created a tension between protecting the Island’s bird life and biodiversity on the one hand and causing harm to the landscape of the Coastal National Park on the other. The CEO noted that a planning application would be submitted later this year and that these issues would be aired as part of that process.

The CEO continued by acknowledging the Trust’s huge gratitude for the recent decision by the States of Jersey to give the Seaside Café site at Grève de Lecq to the Trust. He reported that a survey, the first part of the public consultation as to its future use, would be available from 7pm that

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Secretary confirmed that no matters of any other business had been received in accordance with Rule 6 (5).

The President concluded there was no other business to discuss.

**CONCLUSION**

There being no other business, the President thanked members for their attendance and declared the meeting formally closed.

Signed.....

Date .....